

07-21-05

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PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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**TRANSMITTAL
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Application Number | 10/702,170 |
| Filing Date | 11/04/2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Hitoshi Inoue |
| Art Unit | 2621 |
| Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Attorney Docket Number | CFA00050US |

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): -Copies of cited references -Return post card -Certificate of Mailing |
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Remarks

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|------------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | Canon U. S. A., Inc. IP Department | | |
| Signature | <i>Marlene Klein</i> | | |
| Printed name | Marlene Klein | | |
| Date | 7/18/05 | Reg. No. | 43,718 |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

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| Signature | | | |
| Typed or printed name | | Date | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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SEA00050US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Hitoshi Inoue

Application No.: 10/702,170

Filed: 11/04/03

For: Image Processing Apparatus, Method of
Setting Tonal Gradation Conversion
Characteristics, and Computer Program

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: 2621

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 and § 1.98

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and §1.98, the references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3)(ii), a copy of the Japanese document with an abstract of a readily available translation of the Japanese reference is being provided. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicants believe that no fee is required for submission of this statement, since it is being submitted prior to the first Office Action. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 502456. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

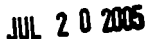
Respectfully submitted,



Marlene Klein
Reg. No. 43,718

Date: 7/18/05

CANON U.S.A., INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION
15975 Alton Parkway
Irvine, CA 92618
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 |
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Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| Application Number | 10/702,170 |
| Filing Date | 11/04/2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Hitoshi Inoue |
| Art Unit | 2621 |
| Examiner Name | Unknown |
| Attorney Docket Number | CFA00050US |

[illegible]

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|----------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear | T⁶ |
| | | Country Code³*Number⁴**Kind Code⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | | JP-2001-34255 | 02/09/2001 | FUJI PHOTO FILM | | |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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On 07/20, 2005

Express Mail Label No. EV 669322196 US

Signature: Chi Lai

Chi Lai

Patent Application for:

Image Processing Apparatus, Method of Setting Tonal Gradation Conversion Characteristics, and Computer Program

Attorney Docket No.: CFA00050US

Application No.: 10/702,170

Documents included in this correspondence:

Transmittal Form PTO/SB/21: 1 page

Information Disclosure Statement, PTO/SB08A, Cited reference
with English Abstract: 14 page(s)

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